

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims, as follows:

Cancel claims 1 through 20 and insert the following claims 21 through 40  
in their place.

1. through 20. (cancelled)

21. (new) An adapter for the firing tip of a nail gun, which consists of:

a member having a top, a bottom, and sidewalls, said member having an upper hollow portion having a cylindrical shape, a predetermined depth and a predetermined diameter, and having a lower hollow portion having at least one cross section that is less than said predetermined diameter, said upper hollow portion and said lower hollow portion being connected and establishing a complete passage through said member from said top to said bottom, said member having an inner lower portion that includes at least two tapers, said at least two tapers being positioned to create tapered walls establishing a V-shape selected from the group consisting of (i) internal tapers that are tapered outwardly in a direction toward said bottom to create an inverted V-notch, and (ii) external tapers that are tapered inwardly in a direction toward said bottom to create an upright V-shape.

22. (new) The adapter of claim 21 wherein said member sidewalls is a circular sidewall of a predetermined diameter.

23. (new) The adapter of claim 21 wherein said outer lower portion is tapered with two tapers, one opposite the other.

24. (new) The adapter of claim 23 wherein each of said two tapers are flat planer tapers.

25. (new) The adapter of claim 24 wherein said flat planer tapers to form an angle of about 20° to 45° with said bottom.
26. (new) The adapter of claim 23 wherein said two tapers are external tapers that are tapered inwardly in a direction toward said bottom to create an upright V-shape, and at least one of said two tapers is a curved taper.
27. (new) The adapter of claim 26 wherein said curved taper is concave.
28. (new) The adapter of claim 27 wherein said curved taper has a fixed diameter.
29. (new) The adapter of claim 27 wherein said curved taper has a variable diameter.
30. (new) The adapter of claim 21 wherein said member is made of a material selected from the group consisting of metal, plastic and rubber.
31. (new) A nail gun and adapter, which consists of:
- a.) a nail gun having a power source for feeding and firing nails, a nail feeder, and a firing tip for exit of fired nails, said firing tip having a cylindrical outer shape with a fixed tip diameter; and,

b.) an adapter, being a member having a top, a bottom, and sidewalls, said member having an upper hollow portion having a cylindrical shape, a predetermined depth and a predetermined diameter, and having a lower hollow portion having at least one cross section that is less than said predetermined diameter, said upper hollow portion and said lower hollow portion being connected and establishing a complete passage through said member from said top to said bottom, said member having an outer lower portion that includes at least two tapers, said at least two tapers being positioned to create tapered walls establishing a V-shape selected from the group consisting of (i) internal tapers that are tapered outwardly in a direction toward said bottom to create an inverted V-notch, and (ii) external tapers that are tapered inwardly in a direction toward said bottom to create an upright V-shape;

wherein said predetermined diameter of said upper hollow portion of said member is appropriately equal to said fixed tip diameter, and wherein said upper hollow portion of said member is tightly fitted to said firing tip.

32. (new) The adapter of claim 31 wherein said member sidewalls is a circular sidewall of a predetermined diameter.

33. (new) The adapter of claim 31 wherein said outer lower portion is tapered with two tapers, one opposite the other.

34. (new) The adapter of claim 31 wherein each of said two tapers are flat planer tapers.
35. (new) The adapter of claim 34 wherein said flat planer tapers to form an angle of about 20° to 45° with said bottom.
36. (new) The adapter of claim 33 wherein said two tapers are external tapers that are tapered inwardly in a direction toward said bottom to create an uprighted V-shape, and at least one of said two tapers is a curved taper.
37. (new) The adapter of claim 36 wherein said curved taper is concave.
38. (new) The adapter of claim 37 wherein said curved taper has a fixed diameter.
39. (new) The adapter of claim 37 wherein said curved taper has a variable diameter.
40. (new) The adapter of claim 31 wherein said member is made of a material selected from the group consisting of metal, plastic and rubber.